



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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NSTAR seeks permit to place fill material for transmission system improvements in southeastern Massachusetts

CONCORD, Mass. – NSTAR Electric Company is seeking a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District to conduct work in waters of the United States in conjunction with transmission system improvements in southeastern Massachusetts.

NSTAR is proposing to place fill material within wetlands and waterways in conjunction with improvements to its transmission system. The proposed improvements include 18 miles of new 345 kV overhead transmission line on existing NSTAR rights of way (ROW) and separation of an existing double circuit 345 kV transmission line crossing of the Cape Cod Canal onto separate sets of structures.

The new transmission line will run from an existing NSTAR substation in Carver within existing ROW in the towns of Carver, Plymouth and Bourne, to the vicinity of NSTAR's existing Bourne Switching Station located on the east side of the Cape Cod Canal within the Massachusetts Military Reservation.

The existing ROWs range in width from 300 to 400 feet and presently accommodate two 345 kV lines on separate towers. The new 345 kV line will be constructed within an approximately 75-foot-wide work zone located on one side of the ROW.

The application for the federal permit was filed with the Corps of Engineers in compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which regulates the discharge or fill of material in United States waters, including wetlands; and with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, which provides for federal regulation of any work in, or affecting navigable waters of the United States.

The public notice, with more detailed information, can be viewed on the Corps website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>. Select Regulatory and then public notices.

Public comments on the Corps permit review (file # NAE-2010-1484) should be forwarded no later than March 21, 2012 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Regulatory Division (ATTN: Ted Lento), 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751. Additional information is available from Permit Project Manager Ted Lento at 978-318-8863 or toll free 800-343-4789 or 800-362-4367 (if calling from within Massachusetts) or by email to: ted.lento@us.army.mil.

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